

## **RACC Meeting Minutes No. 156 (8/24/05)**

1. Purpose: A regularly scheduled meeting of the RACC was held from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST in Room 3246 on Wednesday, August 24, 2005, to discuss and address national and regional AWIPS issues, problems and concerns.

2. Regions In Attendance: The following regions (and other NWS organizations) participated in the conference call: **ERH**: Neal DiPasquale, Joshua Watson; **SRH**: Eric Howieson; **WRH**: Sean Wink; **CRH**: Bill Gery, Greg Noonan; **ARH**: Phil Mieczynski; **PRH**: Bill Ward; **NGIT**: Bruno Vercillo, Doug Rankin, **FSL**: Rich Jesuroga; **NWSTC**: Randy Schupbach; **Warning Decision Training Branch**: Timm Decker;

3. Discussion Items: The following topics were discussed/briefed at the meeting:

a. Status of OB5 and Other Software Issues: There are 35 sites running OB4.2, 23 sites running OB4.3, 9 sites at OB5, 59 sites running on OB5.0.1, and 24 sites on OB5.1. There will be updates to the OB5 Lessons Learned document that addresses the Eastern Region's concerns.

Concerning the OB6 beta, WFO Morristown (site MRX) installed OB6 beta0a last Tuesday. The various problems/bugs discovered after the install are being tracked with resolutions expected to be included in the later beta releases. Phase 2 installs are proceeding at RFC Portland and WFO Pleasant Hill today, and the next Phase 3 install is scheduled at RFC Portland on Tuesday, August 30.

Phase 1 of OB6 is the PowerVault relocation and backup of systems to prepare for the new OS and 16 sites have installed this. Phase 2 is the install of the Red Hat Enterprise OS (RHEL3u4) and 16 sites have installed it. Phase 3 is the full OB6 functionality (including the switch to the Postgres database) and 11 sites have installed it.

b. WarnGen Backup issues: Some WFOs are confused about the proper use of WarnGen when in service backup mode. There were two recent cases whereby a warning was issued without VTEC and a followup product was not segmented. Details for the configuration of WarnGen in service backup mode will be issued shortly in a message being put together by Mike Rega of the SST. What it will basically say is that all sites should start D2D as their backup site before using WarnGen in backup mode, although a site can use the full back-up button at the States scale on their localized D2D in a pinch. After each release, sites will need to run a backup localization and verify that their backup site's templates have the proper format (segmentation, VTEC, etc.)

c. Focal Point/Participants Reports, Problems and Concerns:

Alaska Region: Site VRH installed OB6 on August 15. There is a replacement for the GFS grids which uses a grid 160 and is called AAlaska GFS.@ We are not getting this grid but another one instead and it doesn't suit our purposes. We opened a trouble ticket with the NCF and cannot get a recent status of the trouble ticket. NGIT responded that new grids have been put on hold due to the problems at the Gateway and it will likely take 5-6 months before these

grids can be flowing. The Pacific Region chimed in that this is unacceptable to them also. The discussion turned into whether it was possible to turn on the old grid (re-activate it) and NGIT will look into this possibility.

Central Region: Concerning the status of the NWRWAVES software to replace the CAFÉ CRS formatters, Pete Browning had sent out the documentation for version 2.1b yesterday to all appropriate regional focal points and the upcoming beta test sites. Pete is looking to set up a conference call next week with the upcoming beta test sites to discuss their installation of NWRWAVES.

We need a clarification on the use of AVNFPS 3.0 and 3.1. The WSH response was that 3.0 works in either Red Hat 7.2 or the new Enterprise 3.0. AVNFPS 3.1 is a prerequisite for phase 1 of OB6.

We inadvertently deleted the Cities map and have tried to get it back by loading the three shape files off NOAA1. We are still having problems getting the Cities map back to normal and the NWS Training Center offered to assist the region with this matter.

Eastern Region: There are several WarnGen bugs that have been posted on the list server recently. The region asked for the status of two particular ones. These were discussed in detail and should be fixed in a future maintenance release.

Between OB4.2 and OB5, there has been a new way of purging data in AWIPS but this new method fills up the archive server rather quickly. Are there any plans to overhaul the archive server? The NGIT response is that in OB6, the number of days that data will be kept will decrease from 7 to 5. There are no other plans known at this time on the subject of overhauling the archive server.

Pacific Region: We are working with Guam on a problem whereby VTEC WarnGen is not incrementing at all. The SST took a quick look at the problem last week and didn't notice that their templates were out of order. The problem is still occurring and we will have to call a trouble ticket into the NCF. Rich Jesuroga of FSL asked that WarnGen error messages from Guam's log files be sent to him as they might be of some assistance in solving the problem.

We installed OB5.1 on our headquarters system last week and we discovered that we can't open GFE. A trouble ticket was called in. Also, since installing OB5.1, we have been unable to overlap imagery and model data and get a time lapse problem. We will open a trouble ticket on this problem.

What do sites need to look for as they go off Unix and go to Linux? Mary Buckingham responded that anything that any programs a site runs that is not off the baseline AWIPS, then they need to be sure the programs are running off Linux.

Southern Region: Do we need to schedule the rack consolidation on the Oracle calendar? The WSH response was in the affirmative and there does not appear to be any limit per day as long as the NCF is aware of this situation.

Western Region: nothing significant to report.

FSL: nothing significant to report.

NWSTC: nothing significant to report.

Warning Decision Training Branch: nothing significant to report.

NGIT: nothing significant to report.

**The next RACC is scheduled for Wednesday, September 7, 2005. If you know of any agenda items you wish to be discussed at this RACC, please e-mail them to Jim Stenpeck and cc Wayne Martin. This is to ensure that all of the appropriate WSH personnel attend this RACC to address your issues.**